

### **REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The problem addressed by the instant method is to provide a plant and process for efficient production of low deuterium water from seawater. [See page 2, lines 9 and 10].

This problem is solved according to the invention by providing an apparatus including, interalia, a solar still with a black pan, a porous sloped membrane positioned over the black pan for condensing vapor, an electrolyzer wherein condensate water is separated into hydrogen and oxygen, and a reactor (fuel cell) wherein the hydrogen and oxygen are combined to produce heat and low deuterium water; and by providing a process using said apparatus. [See page 2, lines 10-19].

None of the prior art of record suggests nor discloses the apparatus and process/method as claimed.

Thus, the subject matter of claims 1-8 and 10-11 is neither disclosed by the prior art nor is obvious. The claims are deemed allowable over the prior of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Virginia Manoharan whose telephone number is 571-272-1450.

/Virginia Manoharan/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1797

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